

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /054 W

----- 059494

R 060740Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3312

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 2460

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON 05 MAR 75 FROM DANANG RPT TO YOU

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 0192

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, VS

SUBJ: PACM ACTIVITY IN HUE

1. ON MARCH 1 FATHER NGUYEN KIM BINH ORGANIZED A PEOPLE'S ANTI-CORRUPTION MOVEMENT (PACM) MEETING ON THE GROUNDS OF PHU CAM CHURCH IN HUE OF WHICH HE IS PASTOR. A CONGEN LOCAL EMPLOYEE WHO ATTENDED ESTIMATED THE SIZE OF THE CROWD AS HAVING BEEN BETWEEN 800 AND 1,000. THE MEETING BEGAN AT 2000 AND CLOSED PEACEFULLY AT 2130.

2. THE MAIN SPEAKER WAS DEPUTY NGUYEN VAN KIM, A CATHOLIC REVOLUTIONARY DAI VIET FROM QUANG TRI AND A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF PACM. ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL EMPLOYEE, KIM DISCUSSED "INDICTMENT II" OF PACM AND THE SUPPORT GIVEN IT BY LEADERS OF VARIOUS OPPOSITION GROUPS IN SAIGON. KIM CLAIMED THAT THE GVN HAD LOST TERRITORY CONSTANTLY SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE PARIS ACCORDS AND NOW HELD ONLY 59 PER CENT OF THE MEKONG DELTA. KIM CHARGED TBNT THE AMERICAN AID FUELED THE WAR AND THE CORRUPTION OF THE GOVERNMENT. FATHER BINH THEN SPOKE
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ON JUSTICE AND PEACE, CALLED FOR PRAYERS TO THAT END, AND CLOSED

THE MEETING.

3. AMONG THOSE PRESENT, THE CONGEN LOCAL EMPLOYEE SAW TWO MONKS OF THE THERAVADA BRANCH; BUU TON, THE HUE CITY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN; NGUYEN VAN DIEN, ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE HUE/THUA THIEN COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE'S ANTI-STARVATION FRONT; A NUMBER OF REVOLUTIONARY DAI VIET LEADERS; AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VNQDD/VU HONG KHANH; CONG NONG AND TU DO PARTIES. THE EMPLOYEE SAID THAT THE ONLY PRIEST HE SAW ATTENDING WAS THE ORGANIZER, FATHER BINH.

4. IN AN EARLIER CONVERSATION WITH A CONGEN POLITICAL OFFICER, DEPUTY KIM SAID THAT THE RALLY HAD ORIGINALLY BEEN SCHEDULED FOR FEB 23 BUT HAD BEEN POSTPONED BECAUSE OF RAIN. KIM SAID THAT HE WAS IN HUE TO COORDINATE BETWEEN THE PACM CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND THE PACM MOVEMENT IN HUE AND DANANG. ACCORDING TO REPORTS RECEIVED FROM GVN SOURCES, DEPUTY KIM ADDRESSED SEVERAL SMALL GROUPS DURING THE WEEK AT VARIOUS CATHOLIC PARISHES IN THE CITY. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED AT TWO OF THESE MEETINGS BY FATHER NGUYEN KIM BINH.

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